

2121/

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2121  
Examiner: Ms. Crystal J. Barnes

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Applicant : Ichiro FUKUOKA et al )  
Serial No. : 09/821,810 )  
Filed : March 30, 2001 )  
For : LAUNDRY SYSTEM )  
Attorney Ref. : AI 204 )

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MAY 14 2004  
Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT

May 12, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action of January 12, 2004, the period for reply to which is being extended to expire on May 12, 2004 by a Petition filed concurrently herewith.

A fee of \$ 454 is being submitted concurrently. Should this remittance be accidentally missing, however, or should any additional fees be needed (including extension of time fees, since Applicants hereby provisionally petition for any extensions that may be deemed necessary to avoid abandonment), the Commissioner may charge such fees to our Deposit Account number 18-0002.

Please amend the above-identified application as specified on the following pages, and then reconsider the application in view of the Remarks that are presented thereafter.

FEE ENCLOSED: \$ 454  
Please charge any further fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002